

METRO VANCOUVER ELECTORAL AREA 'A'
OCCASIONAL BULLETIN NO. 3 – July 2012
From Maria Harris – Electoral Area A Director

Dear Electoral Area 'A' Residents and Property Owners,

1. Welcome New Members of Electoral Area A Email Distribution

I would like to extend a warm welcome to new members on the email distribution list. This distribution list was first setup by Metro Vancouver staff in 2011 in an effort to better inform you of what's happening at Metro Vancouver. For UBC/UEL area residents, I also submit regular reports to the UNA Board and the UEL Community Advisory Council. An archive of these reports and the occasional bulletins, are accessible on the reports page of my website (www.mariaharris.ca).

2. Civic Election Thank You Message

The November 2011 civic elections have now come and gone but I have not had an opportunity to thank many of you for both re-electing me and exercising your democratic right to go out and vote. I am passionate about Electoral Area A issues and hope to serve you well in the coming years in office as your elected official!

3. Electoral Area Committee Activities

The Metro Vancouver Electoral Area Committee is a committee of the Metro Vancouver Board which meets on a quarterly basis and makes recommendations to the Metro Vancouver Board on issues brought forward by staff or requested by the committee.

Recent Electoral Area A decisions are now available on the Electoral Area A website at: <http://www.metrovancouver.org/SERVICES/ELECTORALA/Pages/default.aspx>

On the right hand side under 'Resources'. For archived decisions dating back to 2006 please visit: <http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/Pages/BoardsCommittees.aspx>

4. Barnston Island Site Visit

In June, the Electoral Area Committee meeting was held at Pitt Meadows City Hall and was immediately followed by a tour of Barnston Island. Staff arranged an Island Tour including stops at three farms, Robert Point Metro Vancouver park site, and the Katzie First Nation reserve. Richmond Councillor Harold Steves and Katzie First Nation Chief Ed Pierre also joined us for the tour.



The purpose of the site visit was to gather information about the island and the community, as well as for Electoral Area Committee members to become familiar with the Island. A background report is also posted on Metro Vancouver Electoral Area website under community profiles.

5. Board of Variance and Advisory Planning Commission (APC) Appointments

At the February and April Electoral Area Committee, re-appointments and new appointments for the Board of Variance and the APC were recommended to the Metro Vancouver Board for three year and two year terms respectively. The recommendations were both approved by the Metro Vancouver Board.

Unfortunately, no candidates for the APC from the communities of Strachan Point or Bowyer Island came forward during our advertising campaign. If you are a resident from one of these communities and are interested in being on the APC please contact Metro Vancouver Program Assistant Manjit Sunner at 604-432-6369.

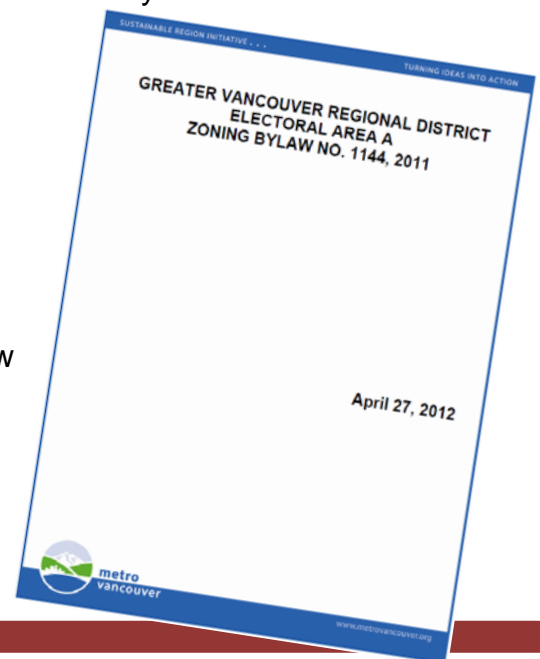
The Board of Variance meets as required and makes minor Zoning Bylaw variance decisions relating to matters such as siting, dimensions and size of buildings. The Board of Variance has met a couple of times in the last four years which is consistent with the low volume of building permits we process each year.

The APC also meets as required and advises the Metro Vancouver Board or the Electoral Area Director on all matters referred to it by the board or by the director respecting land use, the preparation and adoption of an official community plan or a proposed bylaw or permit that may be enacted in part 26 of the Local Government Act including Official Community Plans, Zoning and Other Development Regulation, Permits and Fees; and Subdivision and Development Requirements. The previous APC met 3 - 4 times over the last couple of years to provide valuable input to the Zoning Bylaw update. It is anticipated the APC may need to review a bylaw to address derelict buildings over the next few years.

6. Updated Zoning Bylaw Enacted

On April 27, 2012 the Metro Vancouver Board gave final reading and enacted Zoning Bylaw No. 1144, 2011 following the recommendation of the Electoral Area April Committee meeting.

The new Zoning Bylaw adopts the provincial riparian area regulation for development near water. The new Zoning Bylaw has a new definition for height. Thank you to the Advisory Planning Commission and to all those who provided input during the bylaw update consultation process.





7. Website Updates

The Metro Vancouver Electoral Area website was updated with valuable input from the Electoral Area Committee. New information in the community profiles section with reference maps and information on services was added. Please check the website for updates and by all means let me know if there is additional information you would like to see there.

8. Say Nuth Khaw Yum Heritage Park / Indian Arm Provincial Park

Say Nuth Khaw Yum Heritage Park / Indian Arm Provincial Park is located within the Electoral Area. The park is managed collaboratively by the Tsleil-Waututh Nation and the Province of British Columbia. A management agreement was signed in 1998 between the two parties and established a Park Management Board that oversees any issues related to the management, conservation, recreational and cultural heritage objectives for the area.

The Park Management Board has had several meetings initiated by BC Parks staff to discuss changing the boundary of the provincial park. BC parks staff is exploring removing some of the leasehold cabins from within the park boundary. Consultation with affected leaseholders and the public is expected sometime this year. It is expected that Metro Vancouver's zoning and building inspection services will be unchanged by this initiative.

9. Montizambert Wynd Petition

In April, Metro Vancouver Electoral Area Director and Metro Vancouver staff met with a few residents of Montizambert Wynd to discuss the provision of water and the potential for a West Vancouver boundary extension to help address their boil water advisory and limited services. Following the meeting, staff provided a background document in support of an owner petition to the District of West Vancouver for water service, including boundary extension if that turns out to be a necessary condition of receiving water service. The petition was signed by the majority of owners in Montizambert Wynd.

The District of West Vancouver has now received the petition and supporting documentation and is reviewing the material. It is anticipated the District of West Vancouver are going to undertake a cost benefit analysis, including the area within their own District, and once the results are known there will be a meeting with residents in the area.

10. Membership on Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation

After two years seeking representation on the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation for residents of Electoral Area A, legislation enabling my appointment to the Mayors' Council was passed on May 31st . The passage of Bill 51 amended the South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority Act, making the Electoral Area A director of Metro Vancouver a full

voting member. Previously, the Electoral Area was the only part of Metro Vancouver that was not represented by a voting member on the Mayors' Council. Yet, residents and businesses of the Electoral Area pay TransLink tax at the same rate as residents of all other areas of Metro Vancouver.

The Mayors' Council contains representatives from each of the 21 municipalities, as well as the Tsawwassen First Nation and the Electoral Area, from within the transportation service region and collectively represent the viewpoints and interests of the citizens of the region.

The Mayors' Council appoints the Board of Directors for TransLink and the Commissioner. It approves plans prepared by TransLink, including the transportation plan, regional funding and borrowing limits.

Closing

If you or your neighbours wish to receive these bulletins in future, please visit <http://www.metrovancouver.org/SERVICES/ELECTORALA/Pages/default.aspx>

Anyone can add themselves to the email distribution list on the bottom left hand corner of the webpage.

As before, I hope that you will find these bulletins useful and I welcome your comments and feedback.

With best wishes,

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